

Table 4. Median Spell Length for Spells of Two or More Months in Poverty, by Selected Characteristics: 2001 through 2003

(SOURCE: Survey of Income and Program Participation. For information on sampling and nonsampling error see <<http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/source.html>>)

Characteristics	Median Spell Length (Months)	90-Percent Confidence Interval
All People	4.26	0.15
Race and Hispanic Origin		
White	3.98	0.15
White alone, not Hispanic	3.93	0.16
Black	5.95	0.38
Hispanic	4.82	0.42
Not Hispanic	4.13	0.15
Age		
Under 18 Years	4.42	0.26
18 to 64 Years	4.08	0.17
65 Years and Over	5.82	0.51
Sex		
Male	4.00	0.20
Female	4.49	0.19
Educational Attainment (People 18 and Over)		
Less than 4 yrs of high school	6.01	0.36
High school graduate, no college	3.98	0.28
One or more years of college	3.87	0.22
Metropolitan Area Status		
Metropolitan Area	3.98	0.18
Central City	4.49	0.29
Not a Central City	3.91	0.22
Not a metropolitan area	5.27	0.31
Region		
Northeast	3.92	0.32
Midwest	4.40	0.32
South	4.50	0.22
West	4.32	0.28
Family Status		
In Families	4.09	0.15
- with related children under 18	4.27	0.17
Married-couple families	3.86	0.14
- with related children under 18	3.86	0.18
Female-headed-no-husband-present families	5.81	0.61
- with related children under 18	5.94	0.71
Unrelated individuals	5.18	0.31
Employment Status (People 18 years and over)		
Employed full-time	3.82	0.25
Employed part-time	4.56	0.29
Unemployed	4.30	0.46
Not in the labor force	4.86	0.25
Marital Status (People 18 years and over)		
Married	3.86	0.21
Separated, divorced, widowed	5.20	0.35
Never married	5.14	0.31
Number of People in the Family		
1-person family	5.18	0.31
2-person family	4.17	0.32
3-person family	4.24	0.33
4-person family	3.86	0.26
5-person family	4.25	0.35
6 or more-person family	4.81	0.41

For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and confidence intervals, go to

<[http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A01_20060323_Long\(S&A-3\).pdf](http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A01_20060323_Long(S&A-3).pdf)>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2001-2003